

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The final Office Action dated December 28, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1 and 7 are hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1-13, 15-23, 27, and 32-60 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 13, 15-23, 33-42, and 44-60 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 32 and 43.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gu et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,359,672) in view of Shimada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,147,722). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is patentable over Gu et al. in view of Shimada et al. in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "forming the pixel electrode on the organic insulating film so as to be overlapped, by a predetermined area, with the gate line and the data line, wherein a thickness of the organic insulating film in an overlapping area between the pixel electrode and the data line is different from a thickness of the organic insulating film in an overlapping area between the pixel electrode and the gate line." Neither Gu et al. nor Shimada et al., singly or in combination, teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-6 and 27, which depend from claim 1, are also patentable over Gu et al. in view of Shimada et al.

Claim 7 is patentable over Gu et al. in view of Shimada et al. in that claim 7 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a pixel electrode formed on the organic insulating film and connected to a source electrode of the thin film transistor, said pixel electrode overlapping the gate line and the data line, wherein a thickness of the organic insulating film in an overlapping area between the pixel electrode and the data line is different from a thickness of the organic insulating film in an overlapping area between the pixel electrode and the gate line."

Neither Gu et al. nor Shimada et al., singly or in combination, teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-12, which depend from claim 7, are also patentable over Gu et al. in view of Shimada et al.

Applicants believe the foregoing remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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